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Letter dated 22 November 1996 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a statement issued on 15 November 1996 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union on the subject of Myanmar (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 110 and of the Security Council.

(Signed) John H. F. CAMPBELL
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative

ANNEX

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Myanmar issued on 15 November 1996 by the Presidency on behalf of the European Union

Recalling the common position on Myanmar adopted by the Council on 28 October 1996, the European Union (EU) is deeply concerned by the aggression committed against Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other National League for Democracy (NLD) leaders on Saturday, 9 November 1996.

EU holds the State Law and Order Restoration Council responsible for safeguarding the security of the NLD leaders and considers that these incidents mark a clear deterioration in the political situation.

EU calls for a full and thorough investigation and explanation of what happened on 9 November. Those responsible should be brought to justice.

EU appeals to the Government of Myanmar to exercise maximum restraint and to guarantee safety, liberty and free expression to all those undertaking normal political activities in support of democracy.

EU will monitor the situation very carefully to watch for any repetition of such acts, which would be bound to inflict further damage to Myanmar's international standing.

EU calls on the Government of Myanmar to engage without delay in a meaningful dialogue with representatives of the democratic movement as the only way to bring the country to national reconciliation.